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Concert: Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Gregory Evans

Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

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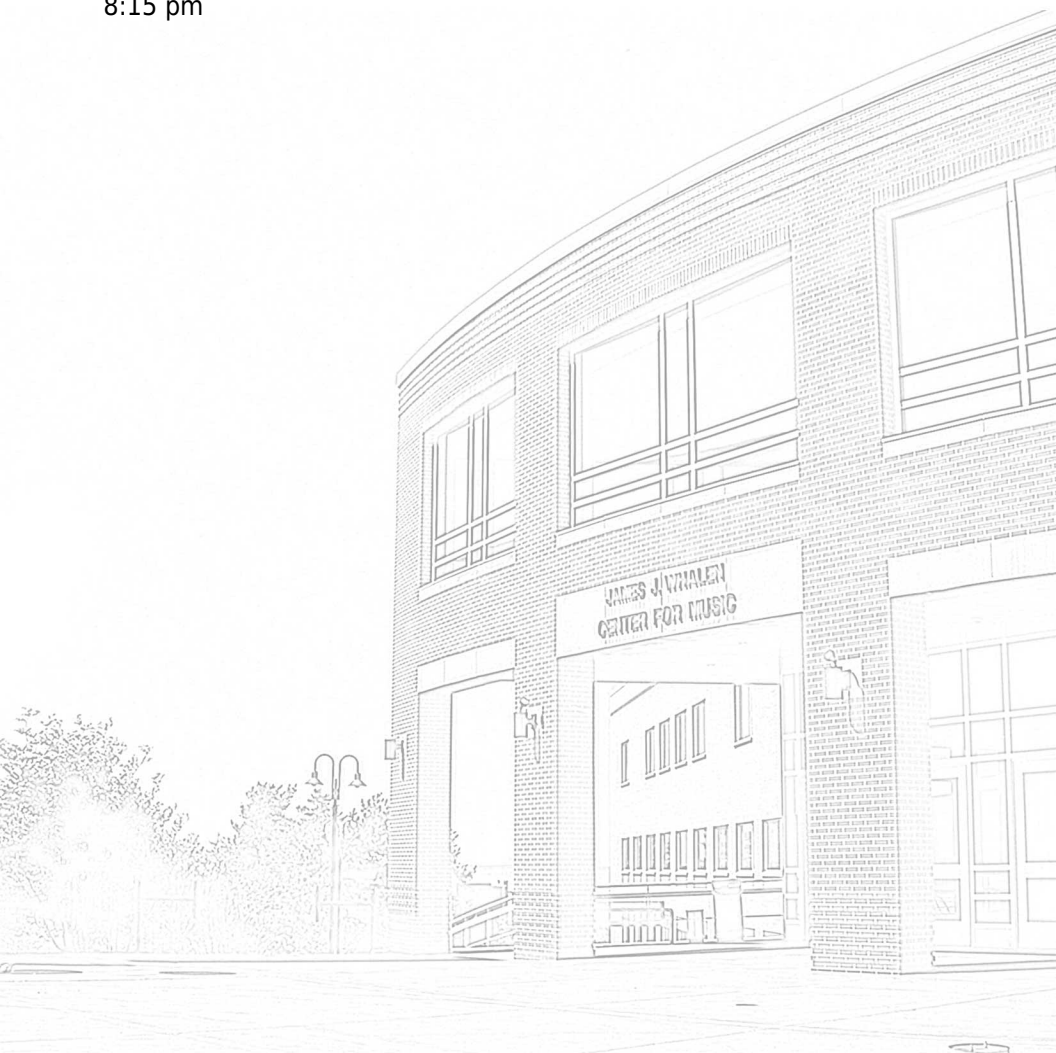
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Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Gregory Evans, conductor
James Spinazzola, saxophone

Ford Hall
Friday, October 7th, 2016
8:15 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Diggin' For Dex

Count Basie

No Time Like the Present

Sammy Nestico

Chili Peppers

Duke Pearson

Doodlin'

Horace Silver

After Supper

Neal Hefti

Make it Good

Duke Pearson

You Got It

Frank Foster

Ain't That Right

Neal Hefti

Biographies

James Spinazzola

James Spinazzola is an active conductor, ensemble clinician, saxophonist, and arranger/composer.

In addition to directing the Cornell wind ensemble program, James coaches chamber music, teaches applied saxophone, and serves as faculty adviser to CU Winds. Prior to coming to Cornell, James was a tenured faculty member at the University of Indianapolis, where he served as associate professor of music and director of instrumental activities. Additional posts have included those as assistant professor of music at Tennessee Tech University, where he had the dual role of conducting the concert band and teaching applied saxophone. James has also held conducting and teaching positions with the New World Youth Philharmonic (IN), the Indianapolis Youth Wind Ensemble, and the Tennessee Governors' School for the Arts. As a guest conductor, he has worked with numerous bands, orchestras, and jazz ensembles throughout the world. He also lectures frequently on a variety of topics, most recently on jazz arranging and composing at Shanghai Normal University.

As a saxophonist, James has recorded a solo album for the Mark Custom label, *Discovery: Standard and Emerging Works for Saxophone and Wind Ensemble*, and he continues to perform in both jazz and classical venues. He is also a proficient arranger, and his publications include wind ensemble transcriptions of Roberto Sierra's *Montuno* (Subito), and John Adams's *Lollapalooza* (Boosey & Hawkes). He has premiered original compositions at Cornell for wind ensemble, orchestra, and jazz combo. Ensembles under his direction have premiered original or newly-transcribed works by John Adams, James Beckel, John Berners, Steven Bryant, Ching-chu Hu, Wynton Marsalis, Tania León, and Roberto Sierra, among others.

James is a contributing author of *Women of Influence in Contemporary Music: Nine American Composers* (Scarecrow), and five volumes of the popular *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band* series (GIA). In addition to his musical and scholarly pursuits, he enjoys making and repairing stringed instrument bows.

Gregory Evans

Greg Evans is a passionate and captivating performer, pedagogue and composer. His drive, energy and facility on the drum set has given him experience across the spectrum of the music industry. Greg's influence spans multiple milieus including studio recordings, live clubs/venues, festivals and the classroom.

A native of Liverpool, New York, Evans earned his Masters of Music at Ithaca College (2011) in percussion studies where he studied under the incomparable marimbist, composer, and educator Gordon Stout. It was while completing this degree that Evans also served as the Jazz department's teaching assistant where he held various teaching duties. Evans holds a Bachelors of Music in jazz studies from the Manhattan School of Music (2009) where he studied under Justin DiCioccio.

Evans has also has an extensive performing career. He has performed in multiple national tours including those of the bands ISM, Remington, and Turkuaz. He has also recorded multiple records with these bands as well as the Danny Rivera Orchestra. Evans has also performed with many artists including: The Count Basie Orchestra, Jonathan Batiste, Terence Blanchard, Chick Corea, Joey DeFrancesco, Melinda Doolittle, Kurt Elling, Robin Eubanks, Jimmy Heath, Joe Magnarelli, Eric Marienthal, Branford Marsalis, John Pizzarelli, Hank Roberts, Dave Samules, and Allen Vizzutti. Evans is also a active clinician, having presented at various New York State All-County Festivals, the Oneida Jazz Festival, and Essentially Ellington.

At Ithaca College, Evans plays in the IC Jazz Quartet, conducts the Ithaca College Jazz Repertory Ensemble, coaches various combos, teaches Survey of Jazz History, Jazz in Society, and maintains an active private studio. Evans also teaches at Cornell University. Evans strives in his teachings to help guide students to realize their potential as improvisers and ensemble players. By referencing jazz tradition, Evans helps students assimilate sounds of the past to create the new sounds of the future.

Personnel

Jazz Ensemble

Saxophones

Lauren Thaete, alto 1
Deniz Arkali, alto 2
James Spinazzola, tenor 1
Kerri Barnett, tenor 2
Bryan Filetto, bari

Trombones

Dan Wenger
James Yoon
Louis Jannone
Matthew Della Camera,
bass

Trumpets

Mike Stern, lead
Ray Fuller
Jason Bennett
Aleya Ashenfarb

Rhythm Section

Kevin Thompson, bass
Theodore Curtain, guitar
Ryan Masotti, piano
James Powell, drums